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study and reading, as well as for numerous services essential to his well-being and success, he was indebted to Mr. Thomas Bulfinch, than whom he could not have had a more judicious or a kinder friend, and who, in the volume before us, has told the story of his *protégé* in his wonted simple and modest way, tastefully, beautifully, and with literal truth, except that he has suppressed his own name, and not told the half of what he did for the lad. Young Edwards gave great promise of eminence in his calling, and had already attracted the strong interest of scientific men in Boston and Cambridge. He invented an improved method of effecting the horizontal adjustment of mathematical instruments; and also an improved method of darkening metallic surfaces, so as to graduate instruments by white lines on a dark ground, for which a patent was secured, though received too late for him to enjoy its benefits. He conceived the idea of applying the "leucographic" method to the printing of books, believing that this would obviate one chief cause of ophthalmic inflammation and disease, namely, the glare of light to which the eyes are continuously exposed from the white ground on which books are now printed. This biography is eminently "a book for young men," inasmuch as it demonstrates the efficiency of self-help, the elasticity of time, and the power of fixed purpose and energetic will.

23. — *A History of Williams College.* By REV. CALVIN DURFEE.
Boston: A. Williams & Co. 1860. 8vo. pp. 432.

WILLIAMS COLLEGE proffers very strong claims upon the public interest and gratitude. Cradled as it is among the Berkshire mountains, in one of the most charming nooks in New England, its site brings around the students all the intenerating and ennobling influences which Nature can exert on character. A meadow in the vicinity of the College was the birthplace of the American missionary enterprise, which grew from the self-consecration to this work of three or four students who had sought the spot for social prayer. An unusually large proportion of the graduates of this institution have become men of mark, efficiency, and extended influence. This is owing in part to the fact that it is located in a region where it is not fashionable to go through college, but where those only seek a classical education who feel an inward call to some post of intellectual or spiritual usefulness. Much also is due to the close personal intercourse which the Faculty have been enabled to maintain with their pupils, and especially, for the last twenty-four years, to the degree to which the present President has kept

his own massive, rich, and versatile mind in constant intimacy with the successive classes. This source of influence, it is obvious, can be made fully availing only where the students are comparatively few, and the outside claims of society by no means urgent; but it is an advantage which goes very far toward compensating the students of some of our smaller colleges for the absence of the extensive apparatus of instruction enjoyed at Harvard or Yale. We believe that at none of our colleges is better work done, or with happier results, than at Williams College. Mr. Durfee is a loyal graduate of this institution, and we have long admired his single-hearted devotion to its interests and its fame. To him there is no place so dear, no seat of learning so august, no men so worthy to be honored, as his *alma mater* and her boards of instruction and government. He has done his work lovingly and well, and has produced a volume of great and various merit, containing a full history of the College, life-sketches of its founder, benefactors, and more distinguished office-holders, and memoranda of several special festivals of commemoration which have been held by its Alumni. The work is enriched by engravings of the College buildings, and by two or three portraits.

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24. — *Syntax of the Moods and Tenses of the Greek Verb.* By W. W. GOODWIN, Ph. D. Cambridge: Sever and Francis. 1860. 12mo. pp. 311.

THE Greek verb, in a master's hand, was no doubt the most subtle, delicate, and flexible instrument ever employed for the conveyance of thought,—an instrument which needed so skilful handling that it could not survive the decline of the national intellect, but yielded up many of its forms, to take on instead of them auxiliary verbs analogous to ours. On a full understanding of the capacities of the verb, with its modifying words and phrases, depend, more than on anything else, the accurate comprehension and elegant translation of classic Greek. But the verb must be used in order to be understood; and long and varied practice in writing Greek alone can fit the pupil to read it well. Mr. Goodwin's book is designed to render to students the needed aid in both writing and reading. It gives a minute analysis of the Greek verb in all its forms and positions, with copious lists of examples under each. The author's well-known attainments as a scholar and his experience as a teacher are a much better guaranty than our word could be that the work is well done. We, however, can at least bear our testimony to the clearness and explicitness with which the rules and principles are stated. In turning over the pages we can find not a single